

Serial No. : 10/694,327
Filed : October 27,2003

REMARKS

In the office action, the examiner objected to the claims on the ground that Claims 1, 5 and 8 include minor wording errors. Accordingly, the applicant has amended Claims 1, 5 and 8 to correct the informalities.

In the office action, the examiner rejected Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Scholl (U.S. Patent No. 3,893,238). The examiner further rejected Claims 6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scholl (U.S. Patent No. 3,893,238). The examiner rejected Claims 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scholl (U.S. Patent No. 3,893,238) in view of Frantzen (U.S. patent No. 5,769,866). In the office action, the examiner indicated that Claim 1 is allowable. The examiner further indicated that Claim 5 is allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, the applicant has amended the claims to more overcome the rejection by the examiner. More specifically, with respect to the invention defined in Claim 1, the applicant has corrected the informalities as noted above. With respect to the invention defined in Claim 5, the applicant has amended Claim 5 to include all of the limitation of Claim 4. Consequently, the applicant has canceled Claim 4. Claims 6-8 have been amended to be dependent upon Claim 5.

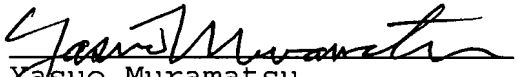
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Under the circumstances, the applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance, and the applicant respectfully requests that the present application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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